

August 1, 2005

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Bill seeks commem funding for National Money Museum

Money would come from NASA-JPL commems

By Michele Orzano

COIN WORLD Staff

A new National Museum of Money dedicated to helping Americans understand and appreciate coins and paper money would be funded with a portion of surcharges mandated in an amended version of a space commemorative coin program for 2008.

The House of Representatives approved the legislation July 12 and sent it to the Senate for consideration.

If the legislation is approved by the Senate in the same form and signed into law by the president, in addition to new surcharge beneficiaries, the amended version of H.R. 68 would mandate specific designs for commemorative gold \$50 coins and silver dollars to honor the 50th anniversary of the establishment of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. NASA is the nation's space agency, responsible for manned and unmanned missions. It was founded in 1958. JPL is managed by California's Institute of Technology and tasked with unmanned planetary exploration.

The legislation approved by the House is a revised

version of the H.R. 68, which was introduced Jan. 4 by Reps. John A. Culberson, R-Texas, and 290 co-sponsors. Culberson's district includes Houston, site of NASA's Johnson Space Center.

The bill mandates a \$50 surcharge be added to the price of the \$50 coins and \$10 to the price of the dollars. The first \$1 million in surcharges would go to the NASA Family Assistance Fund for the purposes of providing "need-based financial assistance to the families of NASA personnel who die as a result of injuries suffered in the performance of their official duties."

Half of the remaining surcharges would go to the Smithsonian Institution to provide "funding for the establishment of a new stand-alone National Museum of Money" within the District of Columbia.

The other half would be paid to the Smithsonian Institution "for the preservation, maintenance, and display of space artifacts at the National Air and Space Museum, including the Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center."

In his remarks on the House floor during the

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JACK NICKLAUS celebrates his 1978 British Open championship on the back of a commemorative £5 bank note from the Royal Bank of Scotland. The 18th hole and the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at Saint Andrews are some of the other design elements.

Famous golfer gains £5

Scottish note honors Jack Nicklaus

By Jeff Starck

COIN WORLD Staff

The Royal Bank of Scotland July 14 issued a commemorative £5 bank note featuring golfer Jack Nicklaus, making Nicklaus the first living, nonroyal person to appear on Scotland's paper money.

The bank issued the note (equivalent to about \$9 U.S.) to coincide with Nicklaus' playing his last British Open tournament, which began July 14 at the birthplace of golf, the Old Course at the Royal and Ancient Golf Club at Saint Andrews in Scotland.

The bank issued 2 million of the notes.

The notes were unveiled July 12 at a ceremony at the R&A Club. Nicklaus clutches the Claret Jug, the British Open prize, on the back of the note. Another picture shows Nicklaus teeing off. Both images were captured during the "Golden Bear's" 1978 British Open victory at Saint Andrews.

A vertical strip of Golden Bear logos, a gold, right-facing bear, is visible at the right side of the note, near the tee at the 18th hole along with the Swilken Bridge competitors cross during their play at that hole.

The "card" for the 2005 Open, listing the hole number, yard length and par, appear in the lower right.

Beneath and to the left of Nicklaus are his 1970 and 1978 scores, including a playoff round in 1970. Above those is an image of the R&A Golf Club building.

The design of the face of the note remains mostly the same as previ-

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Ohio Supreme Court orders BWC to release rare coin funds records

State officials must reveal purchase price, seller names

By Jeff Starck

COIN WORLD Staff

The Ohio State Supreme Court ruled July 13 that the Ohio Bureau of Workers' Compensation must release all records from two coin investment funds, including purchase prices and the names of those who sold coins to the fund.

The court found in favor of *The Toledo Blade*, ruling that revealing such information would not harm the state's pecuniary interests when it sells the coins, but some of the funds' trading partners who bought and sold coins for the funds disagree. Even those charged with overseeing the funds' liquidation have conflicting views.

The Blade requested a peremptory writ of mandamus, or a binding written command, that the

bureau hand over records of the purchase and sale of coins in Capitol Coin Fund I and II, from 1998 to the present, identifying the purchaser, seller, coins purchased and sold, and sale price, after the bureau declined *The Blade's* April 26, 2005 request.

In ruling that the BWC must release the sellers, date and purchase price of coins bought for the funds, the 5-2 decision rejected the bureau's claim that the prices are a trade secret. The court ruled that the requested records meet the definition of "public record" because the bureau is a state agency, and because the documents were "created by or on behalf of the bureau."

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